

**Page Denied**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

EMBASSY  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
New Delhi

29 APR 1968

April 24, 1968

OFFICIAL-INFORMAL  
WBC-India-L-27-68

Dr. Arthur L. Burt  
Coordinator for Maps and Publications  
Department of State  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Burt:

India's Border-Lengths - based on US maps and according to the US position.

The enclosed list represents a rapid calculation on my part of India's border lengths and I wonder if these may be re-checked by you with a more accurate measuring device and at a larger scale. My Rotometer is in kilometers and at odd scales so the interpolation and mile-conversions could easily cause some +- errors.

There is no rush for the information but I would like to have it for my border files. Also the Ambassador's office and the DAO could use it for reference purposes. Since the Indian, Pakistan and Chinese versions will differ, I think the most important for our purposes will be the US position as defined on our existing maps. Please note that I have made a point to identify departure and closure points since this is usually not done in most reports describing border lengths. For instance, one US source places the distance of the Indian border 2,500 miles from Ladakh to NEFA. If you would like, corrections may be placed on my list and returned with method and scale used in the calculation.

Your L-31-67 WBC-India-L-37-67.

My request above offers a good chance to comment on our attempts to obtain India's position on her international boundaries. Upon receipt of your letter, I briefed Mr. Stone and gave him the information outlined in your letter. Unfortunately, Mr. K.S. Bajpai, Director Americas Div., MEA, who had raised the question with Mr. Stone in November 1966, was away on leave. When he returned, Mr. Bajpai was replaced by another officer, Mr. Prithi Singh and Mr. Stone had no chance to talk to Bajpai. By the time we were about to talk to Mr. Singh, he was replaced by Mr. Masand. We were planning to re-introduce the subject in early January, but speculation on India's possible loss in the Rann of Kutch did not appear opportune to bring up the subject of India's frontiers.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

GROUP 3

DOWNGRADED AT 12 YEAR

INTERVALS; NOT

AUTOMATICALLY DEC

CONFIDENTIAL

2

I have my doubts if the Indians will ever agree to any unclassified version of their boundary positions at this time, but we still intend to give them a chance to say no! Lt. Colonel T.S. Bedi, SOI, is willing to help (I had briefed him last August), but he will not act without approval of MEA. I will report to you promptly as soon as some positive action is taken.

Request

One additional copy of INR/GE's International Boundaries and Disclaimers, December 1967, by air pouch.

Sincerely yours,

*William B. Cox*  
William B. Cox  
Geographic Attache

Enclosure:

Border lengths

CONFIDENTIAL

*Enabaw - WBC - India - 1-27-68*

TO: Mr. O'Connor/HMB

FROM: Mr. Cox, PE/EA/BEO

## India's border-lengths:

The following lengths are based on border definitions placed on 1:1,000,000 scale US Airforce Charts(Unclassified). The borders were traced with a German made Rotometer and figures transposed from kilometers to miles. The figures should be considered estimates and used for comparison purposes until more reliable calculations become available.

1. Northern Border -- includes northern boundary of India, Nepal, Sikkim and Bhutan measured from the western tri-junction of J&K, China(Tibet) and Afghanistan to eastern tri-junction of China, Burma and India = 2,590 miles.
2. Nepal/Indian Border = 837.5 miles
3. Nepal/China(Tibet) Border = 518 miles
4. Bhutan/India Border = 329 miles
5. Bhutan/China(Tibet) Border = 247 miles
6. Bhutan/Sikkim Border = 15.5 miles
7. Sikkim/India Border = 55.9 miles
8. Sikkim/China (Tibet) Border = 102 miles
9. India/East Pakistan Border = 1,436 miles
10. India/Burma Border = 752 miles
11. East Pakistan/Burma Border = 136.7 miles
12. West Pakistan/India Border -- measured from southern tip of cease fire line south to terminus point Rajasthan, Gujarat = 1,080 miles (excludes Rann of Kutch border)

13. India (Rann of Kutch)/West Pakistan -- measured from eastern terminus to western terminus of border as defined by Kutch Award 1968 = 247.5 miles; western terminus through Sir Creek = 65.2 miles: Total Border = 312.7 miles.
14. India/West Pakistan total border as defined above in 12 and 13 = 1,392.7 miles.
15. India/Pakistan (East and West) = 2,828.7 miles.

*See also p. 3 of Board*